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\*\*\*\*\***COMMENTS:**

We enclose the attached papers for filing in the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office in connection with Patent Application Serial No. 10/666,204.

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Attorney Docket No. MP/177

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Bauman et al.  
Appl. No. : 10/666,204  
Filed : September 17, 2003  
Title : CIRCULAR STAPLER BUTTRESS  
Group AU : 3731

*I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office on February 19, 2004.*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Melanee Williams

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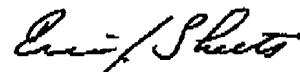
**LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL**

Dear Sir:

We enclose the following papers for filing in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified Patent Application:

1. Information Disclosure Statement (1 page)
2. Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO 1449 (1 page)

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: 19 Feb 2004